



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

BUREAU OF NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20537

FEB 21 1973

The Honorable  
Hugh Scott  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Scott:

This is in response to the inquiry made by Mr. F. D. Galbraith, Jr., concerning CIA involvement in the international drug traffic.

Over the past two years there have been several articles and other publications alleging that the Central Intelligence Agency has either been involved in or has supported elements that are engaged in bringing opium products from Southeast Asia into the international traffic. Primarily, the military heroin problem in South Vietnam in 1970 and 1971 was attributed to the CIA and groups supported by them.

The Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs is represented along the routes of traffic throughout the world, including the Southeast Asian opium producing areas. Our Special Agents work in close cooperation with the host country law enforcement agencies and have developed excellent sources of information, leading to arrests of traffickers and seizures of contraband. In no investigation conducted by us was there any evidence linking the Central Intelligence Agency to the drug traffic, nor has there been any evidence that people engaged in the drug traffic have had any connection with the Central Intelligence Agency.

On the contrary, upon the request of President Nixon, the Central Intelligence Agency has supported the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs in supplying intelligence concerning the international drug traffic which has been of great help to the U.S. Government effort to eliminate this problem.

The question raised in Mr. Galbraith's letter as to the source of the effort to discredit the Central Intelligence

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Agency; I can only say that we found that the allegations came from individuals highly critical of United States support for the nations of Southeast Asia and of the role that the Central Intelligence Agency has played in this U.S. endeavor. I hope that the above will clarify this issue for Mr. Galbraith.

If I may be of further assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John E. Ingersoll", written over the typed name.

John E. Ingersoll  
Director

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Approved For Release 2005/04/21 : CIA-RDP75B00380R000300060018-8

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